

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

By the above amendment, the Voluntary Revised Practice has been complied with and full text of the claims has been included, as well as an indication of the withdrawn status of Claims 5-18. Further amendments include the recitation of an amended identification numeral to avoid duplication, and correction of certain grammatical inconsistencies. The amendments are not substantive and no new matter has been added.

Claims 1 and 19 have been amended to more clearly recite the subject matter, which the Applicants consider to comprise their invention. Specifically, although clear in the main claims and in the specification that the gauge measures in one reading the hydrogen capacity remaining in the canister, the word "directly" has been inserted into Claims 1 and 19 to emphasize that the capacity reading is provided at once by direct observation of the gauge.

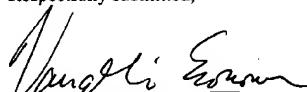
Claims 1 and 19, both before and after the above amendments, clearly recites a gauge for measuring hydrogen capacity, not separate measurements of temperature and pressure, as is described and illustrated in Slonaker. That is, although the invention, as claimed, relies upon both pressure and temperature to provide the reading of capacity measurement, the present invention does not require taking separate readings of temperature and pressure and then calculating the hydrogen capacity using Boyle's law or some similar equation. In contradistinction, and as claimed, the fuel gauge according to the present invention produces a hydrogen capacity reading by means of a simple and single observation of the dial of the inventive fuel gauge.

Applicants note the indication of allowability of Claims 3 and 4 with appreciation, but consider that the allowability of all Claims 1 – 4, as argued above, do not require further amendment thereof.

Additionally, this invention, as claimed, is an improvement over Sandrock, et al., which itself is commonly assigned to the same assignee as the present application. It is noted that the valve 18 of Sandrock, et al. only provides for opening and closing fluid communication between the containment means 11 and the device that uses the hydrogen gas (not shown). Sandrock, et al. fail to provide for any means of measurement of temperature or pressure, and certainly fail in disclosing or even suggesting a means for direct measurement of remaining hydrogen capacity, as is claimed.

For the above reasons, it is considered that the claims, as amended, find support in the application specification as filed, and that the combination of elements recited in the pending claims, as amended, distinguish over the references of record. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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